

**For Immediate Release**

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**CH2M HILL Hanford Group names new managers for projects**

RICHLAND, Wash.—Hanford tank farms contractor CH2M HILL Hanford Group has selected managers to lead major projects that will play pivotal roles in the company's support for the Department of Energy's Office of River Protection and the company's mission to retrieve millions of gallons of highly radioactive and hazardous tank waste for treatment in a planned vitrification facility.

Joel Eacker joins CH2M HILL Hanford Group as vice president of projects, coming from his former position as president of Duratek Technical Services. Eacker will manage an organization that is responsible for developing methods to retrieve solid waste from Hanford's double-shell and single-shell tanks, planning for disposal of glass canisters of treated waste, constructing the Hanford Cold Test Training and Mockup Facility, and continuing vadose zone sampling and risk reduction activities.

Prior to his role at CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Eacker was president of Duratek Technical Services, Inc., a company with more than 225 people in the Tri-Cities, Wash., and Columbia, Md. that specializes in project management, engineering, transportation and packaging, technology development, and environmental services. Prior to joining Duratek, Eacker held a variety of engineering, operations, and project management positions with former Hanford prime contractor Westinghouse Hanford, including work in tank farm engineering and environmental compliance, technical assistance to DOE headquarters in Germantown, Md., and liquid effluent projects and program management.

Eacker has a bachelor's degree in chemical and petroleum refining engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. He is a registered professional engineer in Washington and has completed advanced nuclear reactor training as a Navy officer. Eacker and his family are active members of the Tri-Cities community, including his current position as vice president of finance for the Blue Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and his position as a member of the board of directors for United Way of Benton Franklin Counties.

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Eacker succeeds Rick Raymond, who will lead an organization responsible for the construction and upgrading of tank waste storage and transfer systems needed to send waste to the planned vitrification facility. The new construction includes installing thousands of feet of waste transfer piping, and upgrades include refurbishing more than 30 waste transfer pits, considered some of the most hazardous work at Hanford.

Under Raymond's leadership as CH2M HILL Hanford Group vice president of projects, the infrastructure project for the vitrification plant (electricity, water, roads) was completed more than a year early and \$9 million under budget. Raymond's prior roles in Hanford tank cleanup work include managing the team that solved what was once the top safety issue nationwide in the Department of Energy. Problems with a growing waste crust and the buildup and occasional release of flammable gas inside Tank SY-101 were solved, leading to the tank's removal from the congressional safety watch list. The project was a finalist in the Project Management Institute's international project-of-the-year competition. Raymond also has worked in several other management positions in DOE nuclear programs, including plant manager of N Reactor at Hanford.

Raymond has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Washington and a graduate degree from the Bettis Reactor Engineering School in Pittsburgh. In the community, Raymond is committee chairman for the Three Rivers District of the Boy Scouts of America. Raymond is also a technical lecturer for the University of Washington and Walla Walla College.

CH2M HILL Hanford Group Inc. is the Department of Energy's Office of River Protection prime contractor responsible for storing, characterizing, and retrieving for treatment approximately 53 million gallons of highly radioactive and hazardous waste stored in 177 underground tanks.

Headquartered in Denver, Colorado, CH2M HILL provides engineering, construction, operations, and consulting services that help clients worldwide realize a greater return on their investments in energy, water, environment, transportation, telecommunications, and sustainable infrastructure.

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